CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 2 FEBRUARY 2001 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GEORGIA ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE JOINT STATEMENT MADE BY THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND GEORGIA ON THE AGREEMENT SIGNED ON 29 JANUARY 2001 IN ANKARA CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BILATERAL REGIME FOR KEEPING THEIR COMMON BORDER FREE FROM ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES AND PREVENTING THEIR USE FOR BORDER PROTECTION PURPOSES IN THE FUTURE

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the joint statement made by the Republic of Turkey and Georgia on the agreement signed on 29 January 2001 in Ankara, concerning the establishment of a bilateral regime for keeping their common border free from anti-personnel mines and preventing their use for border protection purposes in the future.

We would be grateful if you would issue this text as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distribute it to all member States and non-member participants in the work of the CD.

(Signed) Murat SUNGAR
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Turkey

(Signed) Amiran KAVADZE
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of
Georgia

JOINT STATEMENT BY REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND GEORGIA
Ankara, 29 January 2001

On the occasion of the visit of H.E. Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze, President of Georgia, to Turkey, at he invitation of H.E. Mr. Ahmet Necdet Sezer, President of the Republic of Turkey, an agreement between the Republic of Turkey and Georgia, on establishing a bilateral regime for keeping their common border free from anti-personnel mines and preventing their use for border guard purposes in the future, is signed in Ankara on 29 January 2001 by H.E. Mr. Ismail Cem, the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Turkey and H.E. Mr. Irakli Menagarishvili, the Foreign Minister of Georgia.

According to this Agreement, the two countries undertake to clear the designated area starting from their common border from anti-personnel mines and to prevent their use for border guard purposes in the future as well. The agreement also envisages a verification regime.

Aware of the human sufferings and casualties caused by the irresponsible and indiscriminate use of anti-personnel mines, the two countries, by signing this Agreement, have proved their determination to contribute to the ongoing efforts of the international community aimed at the total elimination of this inhuman weapon.

This Agreement constitutes the latest expression of the achieved quality of the relations between the two neighbouring countries and underlines their common will to further strengthen the existing exemplary relations between them and to contribute to stability, security and transparency in the region.